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"Nothing is more clearly written in the Book of Destiny, than the Emancipation of the Blacks; and it is equally certain that the two races will never live in a state of equal freedom under the same government, so insurmountable are the barriers which nature, habit and opinion have established between them." JEFFERSON.

ARRIVAL OF THE BRIG KENT.—LATEST DESPATCHES FROM CAPE PALMAS.

ALTHOUGH our advices from the colony, from the last visit we paid it, in 1840, have almost uniformly been of a gratifying character, yet we must declare that it was never in such a healthy and flourishing condition as is represented by the following despatches. We are almost ready to complain with Mark Tapley, that "things go on quite too reg'lar, there's no credit in staying here."

Below will be found the Semi-annual Report of Gov. Russwurm, under date of Dec. 27th, a duplicate of which was sent by the Madonna, not yet arrived: accompanying which is the collectors' Report of the arrivals in the colony in 1845, together with an accurate statement of the imports and exports of the colony during that year. Then follows his letter of the 24th January, announcing the arrival of the brig Kent, extracts of his private letter of the same date, a letter from Major Bolon, the ship carpenter who went out in the Kent, and an extract of a private letter from Dr. McGill to the President of the Society.

Now we do not solicit the attention of our readers to any one particular portion in the following despatches, but to the whole from beginning to end; and then to declare the impressions produced thereby, and act accordingly.

The Kent brought home two colonists on a visit to their old homes, viz: Mr. Charles Scotland, and Mr. Joseph Thompson. Mr. Scotland, together with his family, were manumitted by the Rev. John Davis, of the Baltimore Conference, and went out to Liberia in the ship Jupiter in 1832, and from thence emigrated to Cape Palmas in the brig Ann, to assist in founding that colony; and a more efficient aid we could not have had in an uneducated man. He was ever distinguished as *the* most industrious, most orderly, and most zealouly pious citizen of Harper; and as such, and a man worthy of all confidence, we most cordially recommend him to those with whom he may come in contact.

Mr. Thompson emigrated to the colony in the barque Globe, from Salem, Dorchester Co. With him we have no personal acquaintance, but Gov. Russwurm speaks of him as a good and respectable citizen, and in every respect entitled to the confidence of the public. He will remain in Dorchester Co. during the summer. Mr. Scotland will visit the counties bor-

dering on Virginia, near the place of his former residence, viz: Frederick and Washington.

DESPATCHES FROM GOV. RUSSWURM.

CAPE PALMAS, *December* 30, 1845.

J. H. B. LATROBE, ESQ., *Prest. Md. S. C. S.*

Dear Sir:

My last letter of October 25, 1845, informed the Board of Managers, that I had despatched an exploring party, consisting of Messrs. Banks, Stewart and McIntosh to the Pah country, preparatory to an opening of the trade between that interesting people and the Colony. You will be pleased to hear of their safe return, in good health, and well pleased with the country, and people. Accompanying, I send you Messrs. Banks and Stewart's Journals, with a chart of their route: from them, you will perceive that our prospects are fair for an increase of interior trade another year. Under this head I beg leave to call your attention to the "List of Arrivals" and "Imports and Exports" in 1845.

Since the above was penned, I learn from King Neh of Denah, personally, that a party of Pahs, in attempting to visit the Colony, have had their path obstructed by the Katubohs, and have been driven back. They have returned to their country, and will doubtless attempt the same route our party went and came. Katuboh was the route marked out by Poluh their guide; but events and other advices, after ascending the river, led them fortunately to choose the path through the Eriboh country, where they were treated with great courtesy, and an old road was opened anew for them, for upwards of 20 miles. The intervening tribes can never keep the Pahs from the Colony, now "our ships" as they termed their visiters have anchored in their waters. They now trade with Tabou, Bassa and Grand Berreby; and it is said, they will find their way wherever there is money to be made.

Ladies School.—Mr. Gross has met with so little success in teaching, that I have concluded to close his school, and appropriate the house to the use of the girls school under Mrs. Margaret Harman. It will gratify you to learn that the two schools supported by the Board are doing finely, as well as the school under the patronage of the Methodist E. Mission. The Protestant E. Mission have lately opened one for colonists under the care of Mr. and Mrs. Appleby, under favorable auspices; and God grant that no palavers or other untoward events, may induce them to close it after a few months as heretofore. I shall draw on you next month for $125, in favor of Philip Gross on account of his salary. Under this head, I can say that the colonists are gradually improving in education and mechanics. The Rev. Mr. Herring, with his usual good sense, has established a Debating and a Female Benevolent Society. The Debating Society meets semi-monthly, and lectures have been delivered before it by Messrs. Herring, McGill and Jones. The "go ahead" principle is evidently at work, and I scout at all who are willing to "rest on their oars," because of past labours or honors, and suffer their families to be raised in ignorance, contenting themselves with few of the conveniences of life, because they have always done without them. These remarks apply to many in our Colony, but they are shy of expressing themselves before me, for whether he be teacher of religion, civil or military officer, I denounce him and all such, as the great stumbling blocks in the pathway of the young and rising generation.

Though a party interested, still I avow it publicly, that the greatest stimulus ever presented to the man of color in the United States, has been the promotion of men of his race to offices of great trust and responsibility, even in Africa, by your Society, which deserves all the credit of this experi-

ment. May she follow out her present liberal principles as long as she exists; and may those in her employ remember with gratitude that she adopted her course when prejudices were rife, and many of those who termed themselves the friends of the colored man, thought it a dangerous one. But "*laus Deo*," the "Rubicon" has been crossed and the battle won, and may we not hope, that in another century, if not before, Africa will give birth to a second Tertullian, Origen and Hannibal.

Agriculture.—I can safely write, that we have planted more this season than ever—from necessity—as I determined months ago to purchase nothing of a perishable nature from those colonists who are out of debt—even for currency—for as long as I continued to do so and pay their high prices, I found perhaps 15 or more who scorned to take a hoe in hand, because they could make enough to live on by cutting plank and scantling. This threw much currency into circulation, and the bad result was it could always be bought at 50 per cent. discount. This will not be in 1846, if I can prevent it. The opening of the Camwood trade, and the fair prices paid for goods, strengthened my hands, and enabled me to be more independent—here was a market which had been shut from the first, suddenly thrown open, and all who had means availed themselves of it. Prices, at which the colonists had grumbled, were given by the tradesmen without a murmur. Old debts up to 1845, can still be paid in plank at old rates—but no more shall be expended for what is not wanted for immediate use. There was much murmuring at first, but I have been able to keep my determination, with the prospects above in view.

Cotton planting on a limited scale is prety general, since premiums have been offered for cotton and home made cloth. I have perhaps two acres planted at the farm, and around Mt. Tubman hill, doing finely—"Nil desperandum." Cotton and home made cloth, we are to make in 1846, so says your agent and most of our leading colonists; but we cannot accomplish this without *cards and spinning wheels—cards and spinning wheels.*

Under this head of improvements, there has been manufactured during the past year, with the aid of Mr. Herring and his turning lathe, cart and carriage wheels, missionary carriages, fine and common chairs, and settees, bedsteads of all kinds; one loom complete, one spinning wheel by A. Hance for his family, coarse sewing cotton, socks and stockings, soap enough for home supply, leather now tanning in vats by S. Smith, a corn mill, so much improved as to make fine corn meal, used daily in my family.

As Dr. Hall blamed me for ordering the Light house apparatus from Baltimore, and thus give publicity to its erection, I have to beg the Board to send out by the first vessel from New York or Boston, an iron turning lathe with tools complete, for the use of those colonists who have been taught turning by Mr. Herring, and who will be left without any on his departure. Mr. Herring's cost eighty dollars in Baltimore I believe. To encourage those who have been with Mr. Herring, my promise has been given that I would purchase one if they would learn: and the Governor's promise to colonist or native, is *sacred.* I can pay for it on arrival in oil, camwood or bills. This goes by Capt Lawlin home, why cannot the lathe come out in his vessel by an early application on his return? I will apply to him and he cannot refuse, knowing the benevolent object of the Board in sending it out. Do let some practical turner select the article—perhaps one that had been used but little, would answer equally as well and be cheaper. Let the article only be good and not out of repair.

New Trade Vessel.—We are delighted with the information that a company has been formed and incorporated by the liberal Legislature of Maryland, for the object of trading and carrying out passengers and freight to and

from Africa. Colored men have the privilege of being stockholders, and finally may become managers of the whole concern. We see no reason the concern should not do well, as the other vessels sent to this coast, under less favourable circumstances, make money; and why not this particular one with so many interested in her welfare on the spot. Let us hope she will prove another good ship Argo and return home, laden with the oil, camwood, ivory and gold-dust of this coast; something more substantial than the fabled "Golden fleece" of old. May a kind Providence grant to those engaged in this enterprise, length of days to witness its complete working. For they can proudly exclaim, "we have taken the poor man of color, downcast and oppressed as he is in the United States—carried him to Africa—nursed and encouraged him to exertion; and now behold him,—the *navigator, man of business, and professional man.*"

New Home Jail.—Your attention has hitherto been drawn to the bright side of the picture—let us view the dark. It pains me to inform you, that we have frequent cases of petty crimes. We now have confined in jail for stealing and resisting the civil authority, four colonists; three are brothers—we have three more waiting trial next month, under charge of robbing the agency store. We have only one native under charge of stealing. Petty thefts are frequent, and though the natives do their part, certain colonists are not much behind; but they are old hands at the business, and have hitherto managed to keep clear of the "talons of the law." These provoking events indicate that our present jail system is two lenient; that confinement at night in a log house on the farm, and labor there during the day, they can see and converse with their relatives and friends, is looked upon as a slight punishment.

To break up this no-jail-system, I have determined upon building a stone jail, about a mile further in the country. The prisoners have been engaged for several weeks in clearing the site and quarrying rock, which abounds on the spot. The stone jail will answer a double purpose in time of palaver with the natives, as it can then be easily turned into a fort, being nearly central for about 100 colonists, who could be called there in 30 minutes. Under such circumstances, I could not hesitate one minute. I intend to build it out of funds raised in the colony at an early date as possible. We want more stone masons, and are hard put to it to procure lime in large quantities.

Court of Quarterly Sessions.—For the year just closing, the experiment of having our courts *quarterly* instead of *monthly*, has been crowned with complete success, much to the satisfaction of the colonists. I think the time has arrived, when your agent can with propriety and safety be exempted from presiding as chief justice. There are, I am proud to say, some individuals in your colony who can fill that office with credit to themselves and the Society, and I would therefore earnestly beg the Board to release me, and appoint such as judges with a small salary to be defrayed out of the Colonial Treasury, more especially the chief judge (if not already in the Society's employ) who must devote much time to preparation. The names of prominent individuals are, Dr. McGill, A. L. Jones, W. A. Prout, Thomas Jackson, and H. Hannon. Six years ago the Board were informed of my want of law books—none came, and I had to expend my own funds to purchase such as I could not get along without. Our want is still unsupplied, and should the above views meet your approbation, I hope some will be sent out for the use of the newly appointed judges. I forgot to say, as an additional reason, that the duties which now devolve on your agent are two-fold what they were two years ago, from the increase of the palm oil and opening of the camwood trade. I make all bargains personally when money is put out

on trust, in my office; which I often enter between 6 and 7 A. M, and remain all day, with hardly an intermission of two or three hours for breakfast. None in your employ eat the bread of idleness in Africa. I pledge my words.

Visit to Tabou River and Bassa.—After seeing my emigrants comfortably placed in their quarters, I contemplate making a tramp on the beach as far as Tabou and Bassa, stopping some days at each, and sounding the headmen as to their inclination to annex their territories to our colony; for I am afraid they cannot stand much longer as they now do. English and French men of war abound on the coast, and the goodly heritage of these tribes cannot long escape their notice: it is high time, therefore, to be up and doing, before they trouble the palaver. The mania for acquiring territory in Africa is quite the siege; and every point of note, to the windward and leeward of us, favorable for trade, has been seized upon, and books, dashes and flags, given to the poor untutored natives. We want Tabou, Bassa, Little and Grand Berreby to the leeward, and Garroway and Grand Sess to the windward—but here our pathway is blocked up by the French, who claim Garroway and half the coast of Africa. Lately, I have been informed, by English Captains, that the French have asserted claims to Cape Lahou, on account of some palavers with the natives, for taking possession of the goods of a vessel which was cast away on their coast.

In reviewing the events of the past year, we have abundant cause to praise our Heavenly Father, that our course has been still onward in the acquisition of the arts and sciences of civilized life. With war raging in our territory, we have been permitted to live in peace, and to pass through contending parties and no harm befal us. His arm has been around us when the forked lightening played around our bed at midnight, and rent asunder the workmanship of man's hands within two feet of our head, and when the lofty monarchs of the forest have fallen on our right and left.

I have the honor to remain, with much respect, your o'bt ser'vt,

JNO. B. RUSSWURM,
A. Md. S. Col. S.

CAPE PALMAS, *January* 24, 1846.

J. H. B. LATROBE, ESQ., *Pres. Md. S. C. S.*

DEAR SIR:—I acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of Nov. 15th, 1845, by brig Kent, which arrived here on 18th instant, with 14 emigrants from the United States, and 5 from Monrovia.

Having addressed you, Dec. 30th, 1845, by ship Madonna, I need only send a duplicate, which is enclosed, from them you will see our present state and future prospects—and I hope, they will prove satisfactory to the Board.

We are pleased with your liberality in sending us moulds, materials, &c. to build a fine schooner here. We hope a kind Providence will spare Bolon's life to be useful in his day and generation.

With the emigrants sent out we are pleased, only it is the general wish for more to come out: as the Scotlands have not had the fever, I have promised to take care of them, the same as our own emigrants.

I will bear in mind your promise for a light brass field piece. We stand in much need of one, I assure you.

As you have given me time, I shall reflect on the currency palaver, and remit my conclusions hereafter.

I am sorry to hear you think there may be war between England and the United States. Rest assured, Sir, that your instructions shall guide me, when precluded from direct communication with the United States.

According to instructions, I send home two of our most industrious and respectable colonists, Scotland and Thomson. Upon their statements, we hope our colored friends will depend, as they are both men of unimpeachable veracity. We want those who are able, to come and visit our colony, and return if not satisfied.

I have the honor to remain your obd't servant,

JOHN B. RUSSWURM, A. Md. S. C. S.

HARPER, *January* 24, 1846.

J. H. B. LATROBE, ESQ.

DEAR SIR,—I acknowledge the receipt of your private letter, Nov. 15th, 1845. I know not what reply to make, only to assure you, that I prize highly the estimation which our Board of Managers have placed upon my labours in their colony.

You will perceive by the despatches, that I intend to visit Tabou and Bassa shortly. I write confidentially, that our prospects of *annexing* Tabou, Bassa, Half and Grand Berreby to our colony, are quite cheering. I shall leave in two weeks, accompanied by King Freeman, whose services are very valuable on such occasions.

It seems the French have been offering their flags at Bassa and Grand Berreby, and been rejected; and as they dread the French, they will join us for protection and trade from all foreign intruders.

About the road to Denah, all necessary at present is to have good paths as direct as possible from Cape Palmas to Barrakah, and from thence to Denah. A large quantity of oil and rice come in by this route—camwood begins to come in gradually.

You merit the thanks of our whole race for your able memoir of B. Banneker—be pleased to accept mine. With kind wishes for your health and prosperity, I remain, dear sir, your obd't serv't,

JNO. B. RUSSWURM.

Extract of a letter from Dr. McGill to Mr. Latrobe, dated January 24th, 1846.

"Reports of the colony, ample and satisfactory, have I presume, been forwarded by Gov. Russwurm, so that it will be unnecessary for me to enter into particulars. Could you be on the spot and witness the gradual, yet continuous improvement of the colony, particularly within the last year, it would satisfy you that with the same judicious management, the ultimate results of Colonization would no longer remain a matter of doubt, for even the most skeptical could not but admit that we are in the way of realizing all that was ever promised by the originators of the scheme.

The advantages derived from our Revenue Laws are becoming more apparent daily—arrangements are in progress for the erection of a Jail and Court House, and serious thoughts are entertained of forming the junction of Shepard's Lake with Cavalla River, by means of a Canal; its practicability is unquestionable, the only doubt is, can we furnish requisite means for this vast undertaking with our present limited resources. The Governor displays the true yankee enterprise: when an idea is formed, it becomes with him a hobby—his last one was "Pah Country and Ivory Trade," now it is "Shepard Lake and River Cavally Canal," so it was also with the "Camwood trade," until his perseverance overcame the obstacles opposed to its reception. The fact is, we can discover that our advancement is commensurate with the amount of labor and energy exerted by the principal men in

the community. We possess the materials for almost any enterprise, it only requires the will and exertion to make them serviceable.

In our influence over the natives, we have profited by the frequent visits of the United States' vessels of war, it has been judiciously managed to impress them with the idea that we are under the special protection of the squadron stationed on the coast, this, when joined to the uniform disposition that exists in the colony to deal with them fairly, and justly, secures us their friendship.

Cape Palmas, *January 21st*, 1846.

Dear Sir:—I am happy to be able to inform that after a very long and rough passage, we have at length safely arrived at the place of our destination. During the first three weeks of our voyage, we had a continued succession of gales, some of which were very heavy, and in one very heavy one the safety of our vessel, and all on board, were so much endangered, that we felt obliged to throw off the deck-load, which greatly relieved the vessel. Although, I regret much the loss of our plank, yet I feel confident that its place can be well supplied by the African poplar. Thus far I am highly pleased with every thing I have seen here, and I think that all that is wanted is a few smart enterprizing men to take the lead, and set the people an example, and show them what can be done by industry and enterprize. After I have finished our schooner, I hope to return in her once more to the United States, and then come back and spend the remainder of my life in Africa. If I should return in command of the vessel, would there be any difficulty in receiving me into port, provided I had on board a white man for mate? If so, I should be glad if you would inform me. In order to finish my vessel and navigate her across the ocean, I shall need the following articles—a good quadrant,—a sea compass,—a good spy glass,—a good lever watch with a second hand,—and a ½minute glass. If you will have the kindness to send me these articles as soon as convenient, I shall be very thankful.

With best wishes for your health and prosperity, I remain, dear sir,

Dr. James Hall, Yours respectfully, Major Bolin.

EXPORTS DURING THE YEAR 1845.

Colonial Store.				
35	Tons Camwood,	*a* $60		$2,100 00
2500	Bushels Rice,	*a* 1		2,500 00
12000	Gallons Palm Oil	*a* 33⅓		4,000 00
Est. G. R. McGill.				
25	Tons Camwood,	*a* $60		1,500 00
500	Bushels Rice,	*a* 1		500 00
6500	Gallons Palm Oil,	*a* 33⅓		2,160 00
John D. Moore.				
6	Tons Camwood,	*a* $60		360 00
150	Bushels Rice,	*a* 1		150 00
4500	Gallons Palm Oil,	*a* 33⅓		1,500 00
Other Traders.				
6	Tons Camwood,	*a* $60		360 00
250	Bushels Rice,	*a* 1		250 00
1000	Gallons Palm Oil,	*a* 33⅓		333 33
	Total amount of exports,			$21,013 33

IMPORTS DURING THE YEAR 1845.

In American Vessels,	$9,000
" English "	6,500
" French "	100
" German "	300
" Portuguese "	500
By Colonization Society,	3,450
Amount,	$19,850

ARRIVALS, 1845.

DATE.	FLAG.	VESSELS' NAME.	CAPTAIN.	WHERE FROM.	DEP'T.
Jan. 2	American	Bark Adario	J. R. Brown	Sierra Leone	Jan.
" 2	French Brig War	Hyacinth		Goree	" 3
" 3	American	Schooner Tellus	Wm. Pearce	Boston	" 8
" 3	do. Ship War	Yorktown	C. H. Bell Esq.	Monrovia	" 10
" 10	do.	Brig Chipola	McLenan	do.	" 17
" 11	do.	Bark Palestine	Stolt	do.	" 17
" 17	English	Brig Osborne	Pixley	Windward	" 23
" 22	French Bark War	Grenadier		do.	" 22
Feb. 10	American	Bark California	Goldsmith	Boston	Feb. 16
" 19	U. S. Brig	Truxton	Bruce, Esq.	Windward	" 20
Mar. 3	American	Bark Adario	Brown	Badagary	Mar. 6
" 3	do.	Brig Smithfield	Duff	Leeward	" 7
" 9	English	Brig Lemuel	Vickerman	do.	" 12
" 9	Bremen	Brig Cornadine		do.	" 12
" 9	American	Bark Madonna	Lawlin	Gaboon	" 12
" 13	U. S. Ship	Jamestown	Cunningham	do.	" 16
" 16	American	Brig Oregon	Howe	Cape Coast	" 20
Apr. 1	Bremen	Brig Creole		Bremen	Apr. 5
" 4	do.	Brig Cornadine		Monrovia	" 5
" 9	French Brig War	Alsacienne	Fournie, Esq.	Goree	" 10
" 26	English	Brig Warwick	Kirtley	Liverpool	" 27
May 23	Portuguese	Schooner Don Anna	Machado	Western Isle	May 29
" 24	English	Australian	Liddle	Sierra Leone	" 31
June 4	American	Bark California	Goldsmith	Leeward	June 12
" 5	English	Brig Venus	Machado	Sierra Leone	" 10
July 8	do.	Brig Englishman	S. Dyer	Bristol, Eng.	July 18
" 10	U. S. Brig	Truxton	Bruce, Esq.	Windward	" 10
" 25	American	Bark Rhoderick Dhu	S. Lovett	Leeward	" 27
Aug 21	U. S. Brig	Truxton	Bruce	do.	Aug. 23
" 21	American	Bark Cambrian	Holzach	Windward	" 26
" 21	do.	Brig P. B. Blount	Anderson	Salem, Mass.	" 26
" 24	English	Brig Australian	Liddle	Leeward	Sept. 6
Sept. 9	American	Schooner Patuxent	Davis	Windward	" 12
" 10	do.	Bark Active	Sims	Leeward	" 15
Oct. 5	English	Brig Lemuel	Vickerman	Bristol	Oct. 10
" 18	do.	Brig Mary Ann	Hall	Sierra Leone	" 25
" 21	American	Brig Robert	Brown	New York	" 27
" 10	U. S. Ship	Yorktown	Bell, Esq.	Cape de Verd	" 12
Nov. 2	American	Ship Madonna	Lawlin	New York	Nov. 5
" 7	do.	Sch'r Gen. Warren	Welch	Bight of Benin	" 8
Dec. 17	English	Brig W. Caningo	Walters	Bristol	Dec. 18
" 17	U. S. Bark	Marion	Simonds	Windward	" 18
" 27	American	Ship Madonna	Lawlin	do.	" 31
" 27	British	Steamer	Derham, Esq.	Sierra Leone	" 29

GLEANINGS FROM AFRICAN PAPERS.

The following are the most interesting items of intelligence, which we find in a file of the Liberian Herald, received per brig Kent. They afford a fair specimen of editorship in Liberia, and we doubt not but our readers will think they will compare well with the like in American papers. We don't see much difference in the color of the *ink* at any rate.

THE RE-CAPTURED AFRICANS.

Whether the addition made to our population by the cargo of the "Pons" is an accession of any kind of good to the colony, is a question which can only be determined hereafter. The hapless and yet fortunate victims have been nearly all put out with individuals who want or fancy they want their services. That all who obtained them are in a condition to do by them the part which justice and humanity demand, is an assertion we dare not hazard: neither will we hazard any invidious distinctions. But as justice and humanity are due to them as to others, their peculiar circumstances impose on the constituted authorities an obligation of no ordinary character to attend promptly to every case of failure. They are in a very peculiar sense the ward of the government. Torn by the hand of a fiendish avarice from the home of their youth, the grave of their fathers and the hearth of domestic and social endearments, and thrown naked, enfeebled and emaciated in the midst of strangers, every generous feeling of the heart appeals urgently in their behalf.

But while we ardently deprecate inhumanity and unkindness, and will boldly advocate prompt punishment of every case of wilful mistreatment, we would by no means lend our influence to encourage a mistaken lenity. They are, one and all—the man of full stature and the capering gamboling youth—children: not unspoiled, unsophisticated children in youth, but rather so many items of humanity who, to the waywardness of youth, join the astuteness of the wily barbarian. They know full well the difference between landing in Liberia, and landing in Cuba, and we fear appreciate it rather too highly. They do not need to be told that they are free. It will be found they are much more deeply impressed with this fact than with the advice of an ancient sage "use your liberty as not abusing it."

We doubt not that some little difficulty will be experienced at the first by those who have them in making them easy under the disposition made of them; and until quieted and satisfied they will labour with great reluctance. It should not however be inferred from their present conduct that they are constitutionally more lethargic than other natives with whom we have to do. Most of them were free at home, and they are told that they are free here. As they laboured how, when and for whom they pleased when free at home, they think they should be allowed to work how, when and for whom they please being free in Liberia; and not being allowed to do so they become sullen and indifferent. In a word they are impatient of control. Let them roam at large in the forest—let them select their own place of abode—let them choose their own time to eat, sleep, dance and work, and a more cheerful, garrulous set of naked men and women it will be no easy matter to find. But this must not be—their vagrant propensities must be checked, and restrained within proper bounds: otherwise they will be absorbed by the surrounding population or become a pest to the colony. The regulations therefore which apprentice them to responsible colonists, are salutary to them, and beneficial to us.

Below we give the act of the Legislature, passed at its present session in exclusive reference to this people.

Section 1. That Re-captured Africans landed here by American Cruisers, under the authority of the government of the United States of North America, or seized and brought into this colony under the operation of the laws of this Commonwealth, may be apprenticed out to colonists under the following regulations: Boys under the age of fourteen years shall be bound until the age of twenty-one years: over fourteen years they shall be bound for the term of seven years; girls under the age of eleven years shall be bound until the age of eighteen years: over eleven years they shall be bound for the term of seven years.

Sec. 2. *Be it further Enacted,*—That every person or persons to whom such re-captured Africans may be bound, shall give to every such male re-captured African annually, three shirts, three pairs of trousers, one jacket, with one hat or a cap: girls and women shall be suitably and decently clothed. They shall be kindly and humanely treated, and all proper diligence and means shall be required of those to whom they may be bound to instil into them the principles and initiate them into the habits of civilized life.

Sec. 3. *Be it further Enacted,*—That in each county a committee of three judicious men each, shall be appointed at this present session of the Coun cil, who shall be styled superintendents of re-captured Africans. It shall be their duty to go around as often as may be necessary, and examine into the condition of said apprentices, and ascertain if they are treated according to the spirit and intent of this Act. If they, the said Africans, should be insufficiently fed or clothed, or overworked, or otherwise mistreated, said superintendents shall immediately report the same to the Judge of the Orphan Court, who shall apply the same remedy which is directed in the case of American apprentices.

Sec. 4. *Be it further Enacted,*—That former apprentice Acts of this Commonwealth, and such as are now in force at the time of the passage of this Act, shall apply to re-captured Africans apprenticed under the provisions of this Act only so far as relates to ill treatment on the part of the master and refractory or bad conduct on the part of the apprentice.

Sec. 5. *Be it further Enacted,*—That so soon as the superintendents appointed under this Act shall have been commissioned by the Governor, they shall proceed on a tour of inspection, they shall determine the ages of the several apprentices situated in all the villages and towns, except Monrovia and Bassa Cove: they shall make a list of said apprentices, affix the age of each one over and against his or her name, and present the same to the Orphan Court at its next session in February.

Sec. 6. *Be it further Enacted,*—That said commissioners shall be paid by the Governor by order on the Treasury at the same rate per diem when actually engaged in performing these duties as for other services involving similar labor and trouble.

Sec. 7. *Be it further Enacted,*—That all re-captured Africans under the age of eighteen years brought into this colony and apprenticed to citizens of this Commonwealth, shall have during the term of their apprenticeship at least one month's tuition every year.

Rev. Mr. Hazelhurst is essaying to do us no little harm in America, by individous comparisons—by contrasting the purity of missionary morals with the impurity of colonists' vileness. Mr. H. no doubt holds himself an excellent umpire, seeing he was of the missionary corps. By parity of reasoning, we are a good judge, seeing we are a colonist. We speak only of Mr. H. and in doing so must declare, we did not see any thing very seraphic about him. He had like us, two feet, two legs, two

hands, one head, two eyes, no wings; which all angels are said to have, spoke the same language we speak, only perhaps a little more correctly: but this we did not attribute to superior grace: but to superior literary cultivation, of which every negro is susceptible with equal facilities with an equal chance.

A curious idea has gone abroad among the whites,—that the native Africans esteem white people above civilized colored people. And why? Simply because the white man has heard them express a belief of the superiority of the white over the colored man. Now it is known by all who are conversant with Africans, that there is nothing on earth which they so much dispise as a poor ignorant white man, and that the gullibility of the white man on the subject of their belief of his superiority, is with them a frequent subject of merriment. Indeed the opinion is rife in Africa, that the devil made the white man, and they respect him on the same principle on which they stand in one of his satanic Majesty—that is the principle of self-defence from a powerful and malignant being.

Citizens Dinner.—The citizens of Monrovia gave a public dinner to Capt. C. H. Bell and officers, on the 17th inst. at the government house. This dinner was given as being expressive of the sentiments the Liberians entertain for Capt. Bell's lynk-eyed vigilance in seeking out, and putting down the slave trade, on this coast, and especially in capturing the late slave ship Pons of Philadelphia. The invitation was extended to the officers of the Dolphin who were here at the time, but having made arrangements to depart the day previous, could not attend.

COURT OF CHANCERY.

The Legislature at its last annual session, created a Court of Chancery, which constitutes the Governor of this commonwealth, Exoficio, Chancellor, and the Judges of the Superior Courts of Grand Bassa and Montsurrado counties, Vice-Chancellors. This court, (if ever) is to hold its regular sessions on the second Monday in December in each year. There are several objectionable features in the act of creating this court. It requires but a slight perusal of the law to make them quite obvious: we will point out a few of the objections, and make such remarks on them as we deem proper. The first is, "that the Court of Chancery shall not interpose in cases which can be determined in a court of law in the same controverted points."

The second is, "that when a case has been once settled in a Court of Chancery, it shall be final, and irreversable."

The third is, that the Court of Chancery shall hold its session in Monrovia on the second Monday in December, in each year.

The fourth and last of which we shall here take no notice, is, that the fees to be "paid to the master in chancery for the benefit of the commonwealth" before a bill can be filed in this court by complainant, is too exorbitant, and is subversive of the ends of justice and equity.

Now as to the first objection, we believe the end of justice will not in many cases be fully attained. For it is evident, that there has been, and still will be many cases brought before courts of law for adjudication, which must in consequence of their complicated nature be referred to a court of chancery. It is only at such tribunals, that the poor as well as the rich may obtain generally more satisfaction in their suits. If we are not mistaken it is to this end such courts were created in England, America, and elsewhere. It is at such tribunals, "latent frauds, and concealments, which

the process of the courts of law is not adopted to reach or detect, are brought."

Again, it is at such tribunals the aggrieved may "enforce the execution of such matters of trust and confidence, as are binding in conscience, though not cognizable in a court of law." This we believe is the business of the courts of Equity, which however are only conversant in matters of property. Then if the above be a correct exposition of such courts, how incompatable with law is the sections above alluded to, which under the present arrangements precludes any aggrieved party from carrying his suit into equity after a "decision of a court of law in the same controverted points."

We will continue our remarks on the other objectional sections of this law in our next, as we have not space enough at present.

HOMEWARD MUSING.

The "new year's" evening from the western sea,
Is o'er the golden clouds its influence blending,
And ocean birds recite their minstrelsy
As to repose the sun is slow descending:
All heaven is gleaming with exquisite glare,
Bright waves spring up to melt with rainbow hue,
And many a scene of fairy land is there,
As varied shadows their enchantment strew.

Our sails are teeming with the perfumed breeze
From rarest flowers of the glowing earth,
The mountain herbs, the palm and lemon trees
That hidden spring encultured into birth.
And now the stars half timidly appear,
Their far off beauty in the blue sky seeming,
As happy smiles from that ethereal sphere,
To consecrate the wanderer's blissful dreaming.

I have been musing, and mine eager soul
Has conjured thoughts which in their warm revealing,
Stream o'er my memory with a sweet control,
And wake the sleep of many a mingled feeling;
The cherished smiles of tenderness once more
Around me seem their sweetness to impart,
And glowing lips their gentle accents pour,
To soothe the murmurs of my sighing heart.

Oh many a spirit in its wild career,
Thrill fondly now within its warm recess,
And fervent off'rings for the new born year
Ascend to God in prayers of thankfulness.
Peace lingers there, and ope's her dear blue eye,
As rapture weeps the story of her soul;
And some warm heart the wand'ers name may sigh,
As memory yields to thought her dear control.

Wm. F. Spicer, *U. S. Navy.*

Extract from the Annual Report of the President of the Maryland Historical Society, Gen'l John Spear Smith, read at the Annual Meeting of the Society, Feb. 5th, 1846.

We cannot help prefacing this extract with an expression of our gratification, at the very favorable manner in which the Maryland Colonization Scheme is noticed, coming as it does, voluntarily, from the head of so respectable an association with which our Society is in no way connected. The President appears to entertain a just appreciation of the moral granduer of this great scheme, and of its influence upon the character and the destiny of the State of Maryland.

With regard to the suggestions of the President, of sending convicts to the Colony, we might be supposed to have a word to say. It is just one of

those measures that would work well enough and effect great good if people would only think so. Like the abolition of slavery in this state, it would be perfectly feasible and vastly improve all the slave holding counties, and neither beggary nor bloodshed would result therefrom, but, the slave holder don't think so, therefore it cannot be done to advantage. So with the elevation of the colored race to political and social equality, it would be perfectly practical, and doubtless be attended with beneficial results, but the whites *do* not and *will* not *think* so, therefore, it can't be done. If the mass of convicts of our city were sent to the Colony, yea! even granting their number to exceed that of all the other colonist, there is no doubt in our mind but they would be vastly improved thereby,—the great majority of them prove good citizens, and the Colony upon the whole, would be greatly benefited by their coming; but we are sure the old colonists would loudly and strenuously protest against their immigration, and this very opposition to them, and to the measure would render it impracticable. Another serious objection would at once be made, viz: that the Colony would by the proposed measure be considered a *convict* Colony, and more or less disgrace would attach to those emigrating, consequently, voluntary emigration of the more respectable portion of the colored people could not be expected. Granting this to be the case, which we do not question, we cannot see that we should lose much on this score, for it is by the hardest that we procure emigrants of any character whatever.

It is not probable that any measure of the kind proposed will be adopted for the present, or receive much consideration from the Colonization Society. In fact the main original feature of the Society would first have to be abandoned, viz: that of "the free and voluntary colonization of the people of color of the State on the coast of Africa." But we are free to say, that if the present system of opposition of the people of color to the Colonization Society should continue, a resort to some measure of the kind will be necessary in order to insure a sufficient increase of the Colony to guarantee its permanency, when the State shall see fit to withdraw its patronage—and we know none less exceptionable than the one here proposed, carefully and judiciously organised.

"There is among the passing events, one other subject, alike honorable to the State, and on which her citizens may dwell with unalloyed gratification. I allude to the Colonization Society of Maryland.

This establishment was originated by a few gentlemen, in a benevolent spirit of Christian philanthropy. The intent of this liberal movement was, to elevate our free blacks from their unequal, if not degraded position among us, to restrain their increase here, and to diffuse the blessings of Christianity over the dark land of their origin. Such were the kindly impulses which inspired the founders of the society. But their efforts would have languished, perhaps have failed, if sustained only by private munificence and patronage. It was necessary to be fortified by a sanction having the potency of sovereign authority, to shield an infant colony from insult and drepredation. This protection, could not, from reasons to which it is unnecessary to advert, be obtaiued from the United States. Maryland, however, under no restraint from causes, which might excite undue timidity in other quarters, and appreciating the motives and advantages of the enterprise, not only gave to it her sanction, but came generously to its support,

by endowing it with funds, to secure its consummation. This noble essay has thus, by the timely union of public to private liberality, been crowned with success.

We now behold on the shores of Africa, a flourishing band of colonists, the offspring of our bounty. They live on their own lands, have their own schools, their churches and courts of justice. They are gradually communicating to their barbarous neighbors, the pure religion and feeling of social security they themselves enjoy. There they abide, in peace and domestic happiness, in perfect equality, and under their own free government.

This great step in the cause of humanity has been peacefully accomplished. No blood has been shed, no inroad has been made on the rights of others. Nor has there been any of that greed of territorial aggrandisement, or of exclusive commercial gains, which lead to national pillage and strife. Untainted by any vice in its origin or progress, there stands and prospers this contented and Christian colony, an enduring monument of the beneficence of Maryland. I know of no passage in the annals of any community which surpasses, if there be any that equals it, in elevation of motive, whether we view it as an act of retributive justice to a race whom our ancestors had wronged, or as a great mission sent among the Gentiles, in obedience to the injunctions of the sacred volume. It is a bright page in the hard history of man, as sublime, as it is novel.

But I am not to indulge in eulogies, however merited, yet altogether unnecessary before this enlightened auditory. My object, the rather is, to invite your attention to a measure which might be engrafted on our colonial scheme. It seems to me, that in addition to the advantages which we are now deriving from the establishment of the colony, another, of eminent utility, might be wrought out by it. I mean the transportation thither of colored convicts, corresponding in character with the convicts of another race, who, in the infancy of our own country, were brought to these shores. I would not be understood as desiring to make it, in any respect, a penal colony, or to throw into its bosom such numbers as would necessarily contaminate it. This danger could be readily avoided, by so proportioning the number of convicts sent, to that of the existing virtuous citizens, as to ensure the latter from all risk. Nor should even this be attempted, without the consent of the managers at home, and the colonists themselves.

There can be little doubt, that large and wholesome results would accompany this measure. It would, in the course of time, free your jails and penitentiaries, from one third of their inmates. These offenders, when their periods of confinement have expired, are now thrown back into the community, destitute of the means of sustaining themselves, and rarely improved either in habits or morals. But, if sent to the colony from the bar, and bound to service for appropriate terms, they would at once have occupation. In that genial soil, ample means of sustenance, are of such facile acquisition, that they would have no fear for the morrow. Freed from present anxiety, having before them the sure prospect of soon becoming free citizens and proprietors, their habits would improve, whilst their morals would have every possible chance of amelioration. There would be much to excite the ambition of attaining the ranks of virtue; nothing, certainly, to paralyze the sentiment of meritorious emulation. Assuredly, the chances of their reclamation are infinitely greater under the proposed, than under the existing system.

Another advantage would be that of more rapidly multiplying the population of the colony, giving it, at the same time, an useful body of laborers and thus adding largely to its strength. Such an increment to their numbers, with that of the ordinary emigration, would sooner fit them to assume their appropriate position in the family of nations, and enable them in a few

years to defend themselves from insult or invasion. As a State, their condition is now, in every respect, precarious, and it is our duty to hasten, by all proper means, their attainment of a power, that will render them self-sustaining and independent. Maryland is restrained, by constitutional provisions, from extending to them an armed protection, nor is it to be hoped that the Federal Government would interpose its force in their behalf.

The benefits to the State of being freed from such a portion of her population, whether at large or in her prisons, is too obvious to need any commentary. But, great as this is, I would not be found in the number of its advocates, were I convinced of its being pernicious to the colony. The conservation of this noble charity in its purity is a paramount duty, nor should we risk it, however great the advantages to us. But, we are warranted in believing, from the early experience of this and other countries, where the experiment has been tried, that no such hazard need be apprehended. That experience teaches us that nearly all the convicts transported and domiciliated, among the virtuous population of a young and industrious colony, in possession of a virgin soil, are reformed. There are, in a youthful country, but few temptations to vice, the acquisition of all the comforts of life, if not of wealth, being so easy. Equality of condition prevails, in such a community, to a much greater extent, than in one of more ancient date. Fewer contrasts between affluence and destitution exist, and a greater degree of content prevails, whilst the inducements to acquire wealth, by other than honest industry, are proportionably removed.

The restraints on crime are also greater, for the reason, that in a thinly peopled community, the acts of each inhabitant are in daily exposure to the view of all. It becomes, then, a matter of pride, as well as of policy, even with the degraded, not to lay themselves open to the contempt of their more upright fellows. Exposed as they are to this unceasing inspection, they conceal their propensities, refrain from crime, assume the garb of virtue, and, in the end, are entitled to wear it. Thus, their offences are forgotten by themselves and their neighbours, and they mingle with and merge in the great mass.

But, if the suggestion I have ventured to make, be fraught with any peril to the benign purpose which gave rise to the colony, or to its purity, it must not be entertained. In that event, it may be a duty to look around for a substitute, less open to objection, and, as I trust, not less propitious to the desirable object of disentangling us from a reckless and vicious class of our population.

And, fortunately, there is one which immediately presents itself. In the broad extent of the African domain, there is ample space for millions, even on the coast and in the vicinity of the Maryland establishment. Here a strictly penal colony might be set on foot, and placed under the control of the colonial government, through the administration at home. Such an arrangement would have the effect of freeing us from a greater number of vagrants and offenders, than could with safety be sent to the existing colony. It obviously possesses this advantage, but it is very certain that the amelioration of the convicts would be of slower progress. The cost of transportation in both, would be the same, and not largely exceeding the expenditures now incurred in their confinement, in our prisons and alms-houses. But, even were the charges still greater, some effort should be made to free us, from the abandoned of a caste daily increasing in numbers, and wholly out of place in our midst.

With this brief notice of a matter which appears to me of deep interest to the State, and as forcibly soliciting her earnest attention, I will leave it to be taken up by abler hands, if it be entitled to so much respect."

February 5, 1846.

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